

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus being capable of connecting to a memory-incorporating apparatus having an image memory via a network, comprising:
 - an input device for receiving image data;
 - a transfer portion for transferring the image data received by the input device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;
 - a reception portion for receiving the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus
 - a printing device for forming an image;
 - a first key to accept a data transfer instruction instructing to transfer the image data received by the input device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;
 - a second key to accept a start instruction instructing to form the image data received by the input device; and
 - a display portion for displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein;
 - when the first key and the second key are pressed, the input device receives image data, the transfer portion transfers the image data received by the

input device and the printing device forms an image based on the image data received by the input device, wherein;

the display portion displays the third key ~~after the transfer portion transfers the image data received by the input device~~ in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein

when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key ~~from the memory-incorporating apparatus and~~ such that the printing device ~~forms~~ may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

2. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a retrieval portion for retrieving the memory-incorporating apparatus , wherein the retrieval portion retrieves the memory-incorporating apparatus when the first key is pressed.

3. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein when the retrieval portion identifies the memory-incorporating apparatus, the transfer portion transfers the image data received by the input device to the memory-incorporating apparatus identified by the retrieval portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising:

a warning device for informing a user that the retrieval portion can not identify any memory-incorporating apparatus.

5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the display portion displays the third key during or after image forming operation by the printing device based on the image data received by the input device.

9. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus being capable of connecting to a memory-incorporating apparatus having an image memory via a network, comprising:

a reading device for creating image data by reading an image document;

a printing device for forming an image;

a transfer portion for transferring the image data created by the reading device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a reception portion for receiving the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a first key to accept a data transfer instruction instructing to transfer the image data created by the reading device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a second key to accept a start instruction instructing to form the image data created by the reading device; and

a display portion for displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein;

when the first key and the second key are pressed, the reading device creates image data, the transfer portion transfers the image data created by the reading device and the printing device forms an image based on the image data created by the reading device, wherein;

the display portion displays the third key ~~after the transfer portion transfers the image data created by the reading device~~ in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein

when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key ~~from the memory-incorporating apparatus and~~ such that the printing device ~~forms~~ may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

10. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 9, further comprising:

a retrieval portion for retrieving the memory-incorporating apparatus , wherein the retrieval portion retrieves the memory-incorporating apparatus when the first key is pressed.

11. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein when the retrieval portion identifies the memory-incorporating

apparatus, the transfer portion transfers the image data created by the reading device to the memory-incorporating apparatus identified by the retrieval portion.

12. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

a warning device for informing a user that the retrieval portion can not identify any memory-incorporating apparatus.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein the display portion displays the third key during or after image forming operation by the printing device based on image data created by the reading device.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming method for an image forming apparatus connected to a memory-incorporating apparatus having an image memory via a network, comprising:

a first receive step of receiving image data;

a transfer step of transferring the image data received in the first receive step to the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a second receive step of receiving the image data transferred in the transfer step from the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a form step of forming an image

a data transfer instruction acceptance step of accepting a data transfer instruction to transfer the image data received in the first receive step to the memory-incorporating apparatus when a first key is pressed;

a start instruction acceptance step of accepting a start instruction instructing to form the image data received in the first receive step when a second key is pressed;

a displaying step of displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred in the transforming step from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein the displaying step occurs after in response to the transforming step;

wherein the first receive step and the transfer step occur when the first key and the second key are pressed; and

wherein the second receive step and the form step occur when the third key is pressed.

18. (Currently Amended) An image forming method for an image forming apparatus connected to a memory-incorporating apparatus having an image memory via a network, comprising:

a create step of creating image data by reading an image document with a reading device;

a first form step of forming an image based on the image data created in the create step;

a transfer step of transferring the image data created in the create step to the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a receive step of receiving the image data transferred in the transfer step from the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a second form step of forming an image with use of the received image data received in the receive step;

a data transfer instruction acceptance step of accepting a data transfer instruction to transfer the image data created in the create step to the memory-incorporating apparatus when a first key is pressed;

a start instruction acceptance step of accepting a start instruction instructing to form the image data created in the create step when a second key is pressed;

a displaying step of displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred in the transforming step from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein the displaying step occurs after in response to the transforming step;

wherein the create step and the transfer step occur when the first key and the second key are pressed; and

wherein the receive step and the second form step occur when the third key is pressed.

19. (Currently Amended) An image forming system for connecting a memory-incorporating apparatus incorporating an image memory which can store image data to an image forming apparatus via a network, the image forming system comprising:

an input device for receiving image data;

a transfer portion for transferring the image data received by the input device to the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a reception portion for receiving the image data from the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a printing device for forming an image;

a first key to accept a data transfer instruction instructing to transfer the image data received by the input device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a second key to accept a start instruction instructing to form the image data received by the input device; and

a display portion for displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein;

when the first key and the second key are pressed, the input device receives image data, the transfer portion transfers the image data received by the input device and the printing device forms an image based on the image data received by the input device, wherein;

the display portion displays the third key ~~after the transfer portion transfers the image data received by the input device~~ in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein

when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and second key ~~from the memory-incorporating apparatus and~~ such that the printing device ~~forms~~ may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

20. (Currently Amended) An image forming system for connecting a memory-incorporating apparatus incorporating an image memory which can store image data to an image forming apparatus via a network, the image forming system comprising:

- a reading device for creating image data by reading an image document;
- a buffer for holding the image data created with the reading device;
- a printing device for forming an image;
- a transfer portion for transferring the image data held in the buffer to the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus;
- a reception portion for receiving the image data from the memory-incorporating apparatus;
- a control unit for controlling the printing device;
- a first key to accept a data transfer instruction instructing to transfer the image data created by the reading device to the memory-incorporating apparatus;
- a second key to accept a start instruction instructing to form the image data created by the reading device; and
- a display portion for displaying a third key to accept a reread instruction instructing to reread the image data transferred by the transfer portion from the memory-incorporating apparatus, wherein;
when the first key and the second key are pressed, the reading device creates image data, the transfer portion transfers the image data created by the

reading device and the printing device forms an image based on the image data created by the reading device, wherein;

the display portion displays the third key ~~after the transfer portion transfers the image data created by the reading device~~ in response to initiation of the formation of the image by the printing device, wherein

when the third key is pressed, the reception portion receives, from the memory-incorporating apparatus, the image data transferred by the transfer portion based on said pressing of the first key and the second key ~~from the memory-incorporating apparatus and~~ such that the printing device ~~forms~~ may form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.

21. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

22. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

23. (Previously Presented) The image forming method as defined in claim 17, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

24. (Previously Presented) The image forming method as defined in claim 18, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

25. (Previously Presented) The image forming system as defined in claim 19, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

26. (Previously Presented) The image forming system as defined in claim 20, wherein the image forming apparatus does not have an image memory.

27. (Previously Presented) A method for forming an image on an image-forming apparatus that is connected to an image memory via a network, comprising:

displaying a first key on the image forming apparatus, said first key relating to a data transfer function;

in response to pressing of the first key by a user, setting the data transfer function to an active state;

in response to pressing of a second key by a user, reading an image from a document and inputting image data;

further in response to pressing of the second key, determining whether the data transfer function is set to the active state;

if the data transfer function is determined to be set to the active state, automatically transferring the input image data to the image memory via the network;

forming an image based on the input image data; and

in response to the formation of the image, displaying a third key on the image-forming apparatus for inputting a command to read the image data that was transferred to the image memory.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

in response to pressing of the third key by a user, transferring the image data from the image memory to the image-forming apparatus; and

forming an image at the image-forming apparatus, based on the image data transferred from the image memory.

29. (New) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein, when the third key is pressed, the display portion prompts a user to press the second key, the pressing of which will cause the printing device to form an image based on the image data received by the reception portion.